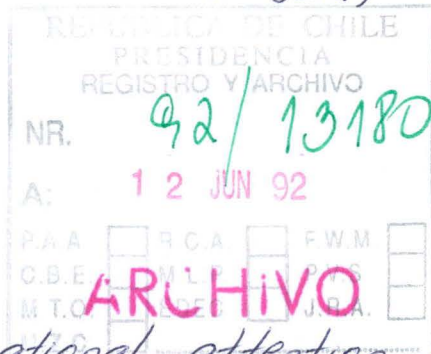


28 Pyrie Road
Earlwood
NSW 2206
AUSTRALIA
9 June, 1992

Sr Patricio Aylwin Azócar
Presidente de la República
Palacio de la Moneda
Santiago, CHILE.



Your Excellency,

This year international attention is focused on your country as you celebrate 500 years of European settlement. As you reflect upon the many achievements of the last 500 years, I ask that you not ignore the plight of the indigenous people of your country. Not unlike Australia, Chile's record on this issue is not unblemished.

I am particularly concerned about the extremely cruel treatment of Mapuche Indians after the 1973 coup. I am aware that the National Commission of Truth and Reconciliation was appointed when democratic government was restored to Chile. The CNVR investigates cases of violation of human rights such as the case of Nelson Curiniñ. I understand that a criminal complaint for homicide was presented to the courts in 1991. Formerly, however, Nelson Curiniñ's killers would be covered by a 1978 law granting amnesty to members of the armed forces involved in human rights violations committed between September 11, 1973 and March 10, 1978. This law continues to be used to close investigations into abuses which occurred prior to 1978, before the full facts have been clarified and criminal responsibility established.

As a member of the international community, I am sure that I do not stand alone as I

ask that this legal loop-hole be closed so that those responsible for abusing their fellow human beings can be brought to justice.

Yours sincerely,
M. Joannidis
M. Joannidis